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TURN WASTE INTO NPK RAW MATERIAL, PETROKIMIA GRESIK SAVES IDR 7.4 M

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Petrochemicals Gresik has introduced a breakthrough in the field of compound fertilizers by turning coal waste or Fly Ash-Bottom Ash (FABA) into filler material for NPK fertilizers, replacing clay. With this innovation, the company was able to save up to IDR 7.4 billion from reduced waste management costs and clay purchases.

The President Director of Petrochemicals Gresik, Dwi Satriyo Annurogo, stated that this latest breakthrough has made Petrochemicals Gresik, a member of the Indonesian Fertilizer Holding, a Grand Champion in the Indonesian Fertilizer Quality Improvement (PIQI) 2022 event.

"Appreciation also came from many parties. This discovery has been presented at several national and international seminars, has become the basis for academic writing by the Agricultural Research and Development Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, and has been adopted by friends from Pusri Palembang. Petrochemicals Gresik has also received a certificate of creation for this innovation," said Dwi Satriyo.

As an Agro-Industrial Solutions company, Petrochemicals Gresik is a pioneer in compound fertilizers in the country and is currently the largest NPK producer in Indonesia with a production capacity of 2.7 million tons per year. However, Petrochemicals Gresik is not satisfied and continues to introduce breakthroughs to improve the competitiveness of NPK.

"From the test results, the use of FABA as a replacement for clay in the production of NPK fertilizers is still within the boundaries of the Indonesian National Standard (SNI). The results of applying the fertilizer to rice plants have the same good quality as NPK fertilizers without FABA," he said

Dwi Satriyo continued, this innovation is motivated by the status of FABA which is no longer classified as Hazardous and Toxic Substances (B3) according to Government Regulation (PP) Number 22 of 2021. Thus, Petrokimia Gresik sees this change in status as an opportunity to substitute NPK raw materials.

The raw materials for making NPK fertilizer can be grouped into two, namely the main material that carries nutrients such as Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), and Sulfur (S), and filler materials that serve as complementary materials and also act as a binder for all raw materials to produce a perfect granulated product.

Typically, the filler material in NPK fertilizer uses white clay which is usually obtained from cement raw material mines. By utilizing the available FABA, Petrokimia Gresik does not need to incur costs for purchasing clay.

In addition, using FABA as a substitute for NPK filler raw materials can also reduce the cost of managing FABA waste, which was previously reaching IDR 269 million/month, to zero or 100% lower. This innovation will also have a positive impact on the environment by optimizing waste utilization, reducing health and safety risks, and improving work comfort.



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"FABA has the same characteristics and contents as clay. This innovation will enhance the competitiveness of the NPK we produce, allowing the benefits to be felt by farmers, our consumers," Dwi Satriyo concluded

As information, Petrokimia Gresik participated with six innovation teams in the 2022 PIQI event, including Tim Marion, Tim Focus, GIO FABA, GIO P2O5, Tim Literasi CSR, and GIO HCDev. Not only did it become the Grand Champion, but the booth presented by GIO FABA during the four-day PIQI 2022 event was also awarded as the "Best Booth Winner."

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